

GOSFORD SAILING CLUB GENERAL SAILING INSTRUCTIONS.

EVENT MANAGEMENT

The 2010/2011 GSC Sailing Hand Book and its By-Laws, Addenda and Sailing Instructions are the Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions required by the RRS 88.

These Sailing Instructions cover all yacht and dinghy racing staged by Gosford Sailing Club. Addenda relevant to individual classes and sections are annexed hereto.

1. RULES

The organising authority is the Sailing Committee of the Gosford Sailing Club Limited (GSC).

- 1.1 All racing will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing the Prescriptions and Special Regulations of Yachting Australia 2009– 2012 and the relevant One Design and Class Association rules all as modified by these sailing instructions.
- 1.2 YA special regulations addendum A Part 2 (“off the beach boats”) shall apply to all dinghy classes.
- 1.3 YA special regulations Part 1 for racing boats shall apply to all yachts, multihulls and trailables.
- 1.4 All GSC Events are subject to NSW Maritime Regulations and the GSC Aquatic Licence Issued by NSW Maritime.
- 1.5 Should conflict exist between these General Sailing Instructions and the relevant Class Addenda, the latter shall over-ride.
- 1.6 For the purpose of these rules the Sailing Committee will consist of the Commodore, Sailing Administrator and a nominated representative of each sailing section.
- 1.7 For the purpose of these rules the Race Committee will consist of the Commodore, Sailing Administrator, Starter or their nominated deputy and a nominated representative of the particular sailing section involved in the event.

2. ELIGIBILITY AND CLUB MEMBERSHIP

- 2.1 Financial Members of the Gosford Sailing Club and visitors as defined in Clause 2.2 shall be eligible to compete in races conducted by the Club, except that only Financial Members of the Gosford Sailing Club Limited may be eligible for Club Championship points.
- 2.2 A non-member shall be deemed to be a visitor up to and including three (3) races in any season. A visitor shall be counted as a starter, with all rights accorded to the vessel while racing, but will not be counted in the finishing positions. A visitor who subsequently joins Gosford Sailing Club or who has lodged an application for membership which is being processed, shall be considered to be a Financial Member for up to the three (3) races competed in as a visitor.
- 2.3 For vessels with crew to be awarded points in Club Championship events, all members of the crew must be Financial Sailing Members of the Club.
- 2.4 For vessels with crew to be awarded points in pointscore events, all members of the crew must be Financial Sailing Members of the Club, however a non-member may sail for a maximum of three (3) races.
- 2.5 Exemption to these rules may, in the event of extenuating circumstances, be granted by the Sailing Committee.
- 2.6 The race entry fee (if any), as determined by the relevant Class Executive, must be paid prior to commencement of each race, or as otherwise directed in the relevant Class Addenda annexed hereto.
- 2.7 Gosford Sailing Club reserves the right to refuse an entry

3. INSURANCE

- 3.1 Each participating boat must be covered by Third Party Liability Insurance of not less than AU\$10,000,000 for any one accident. Such insurance should cover all risks arising from participation in the racing program whether ashore or afloat.
- 3.2 Each entrant shall sign the insurance compliance form. Proof of current insurance may be requested by the race committee at any time

4. LIABILITY / DISCLAIMER

- 4.1 All those taking part in Club racing, do so at their risk and responsibility and are required to read the "Risk Warning" contained in this publication and posted in the GSC.
- 4.2 Gosford Sailing Club Limited is not responsible for the seaworthiness of a vessel, whose entry is accepted, or the sufficiency or adequacy of its equipment.
- 4.3 Attention is drawn to YA Fundamental Rule 4 which states "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone".

5. NOTICE TO COMPETITORS

- 5.1 Notices will be posted on the Official Class Notice Board in the Club foyer.
- 5.2 Race results will be posted on the notice board as soon as possible after completion of the days racing. This is the responsibility of the Class Delegate or his / her nominee.
- 5.3 Notices to re-sail races will be posted on the notice board at least six (6) days prior to the dates nominated.

6. CHANGES TO INSTRUCTIONS

- 6.1 Changes to the Class Addenda of the Sailing Instructions may be made by the relevant Class Sailing committee and will be posted not later than two (2) hours prior to the commencement of the day's racing for dinghy and Etchells classes and forty eight (48) hours prior to the commencement of racing for Yacht sections.

7. SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 7.1 The dates and scheduled starting times for races shall appear in the Official Program of the Gosford Sailing Club.
- 7.2 Re-sails may be conducted at the discretion of the relevant class race committee , with notice to competitors in accordance with Clause 4.3.

8. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 8.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the GSC Flag mast located on the South Western side of the Clubhouse
- 8.2 When AP is displayed ashore for boat starts the warning signal will be made 'not less than 30 minutes' after AP is lowered. (This amends Race Signal AP)

9. FLAGS / BURGEES

- 9.1 The flags and burgees to be used in Club races shall be :
 - (a) The International Code of Signals and numeral pennants as described in the YA Racing Rules of Sailing 2009 – 2012.
 - (b) The Gosford Sailing Club burgee.
 - (c) The recognised relevant Class Association flag.

10. RACING AREA

- 10.1 The racing area shall be on the Brisbane Water, N.S.W. The Yacht Section will also participate in off – shore races which will be sailed in the environs of Broken Bay and coastal waters of N.S.W.

11. COMMITTEE VESSEL / MARKS

- 11.1 A signal vessel shall be stationed at the starboard end of the start line (unless otherwise stated in the individual Class Addenda annexed hereto). This vessel shall display The GSC Burgee and all on water signals and when on station shall be a mark of the course.

11.1 The start Finish mark shall be a stick buoy with a fluorescent pink flag

11.2 Marks shall be described in the relevant Class Addenda annexed hereto.

12. COURSES

12.1 Courses shall be described in the relevant Class Addenda annexed hereto.

12.2 The RC may shorten any course in accordance with RRS 32.

12.3 A change of course may be undertaken in accordance with RRS 33

12.4 A race which is abandoned for any reason, may be re-sailed at the discretion of the Class Race Committee

13. THE START

13.1 Races shall be started by using rule 26 with the warning signal given 5 minutes before the starting signal unless otherwise stated in the relevant Class Addenda annexed hereto.

13.2 The start line shall be an imaginary line between Committee vessel's flag mast displaying the Club Burgee on the starboard end and the stick buoy with pink flag at the Port end..

13.3 An inner distant mark may be laid near the committee boat. If laid boats approaching the line to start shall pass this mark to starboard.

13.4 Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall keep clear of the starting area and all boats whose warning signal has been made. Attention is drawn to RRS22.

14. FINISHING LINE

14.1 Unless otherwise stated in the relevant Class Addenda annexed hereto, the finishing line shall be between the flag mast of the committee vessel displaying the Blue on Station flag and the finishing mark.

14.1 Yachts shall not pass through the Finish Line in either direction when the committee vessel is on station (Flying the Blue on station Flag), except when finishing the race. Failure to observe this rule will result in the Yacht being scored DNF. This changes RRS 28

15. SIGN ON REQUIREMENTS

15.1 Competitors in all class events conducted by Gosford Sailing Club must sign the official class entry list on the day of competition.

15.2 Failure to sign on will result in the offending entrant being declared a non starter in the relevant event.

15.3 It is the responsibility of each dinghy Class Delegate to ensure the entry list (sign on sheet) is in the hands of the starter no later than one (1) hour prior to the first fleet warning signal.

16. RECALLS

16.1 General recalls shall be in accordance with RRS 29.2, unless amended by Class Addenda

16.2 Individual recalls shall be in accordance with RRS 29.1,

17. TIME LIMIT

17.1 The time limit for dinghy classes shall be three (3) hours from the class starting signal. When a vessel finishes within the time limit, the race shall be valid only for those vessels who finish within 30 minutes of the first vessel, or within the time limit, whichever is the later.

17.2 Time limits for yachts are set out in the relevant Class Addenda annexed hereto.

18. PROTESTS

- 18.1 Protests shall be lodged in writing with the relevant Class Delegate or his / her nominee (Club Commodore or Sailing Administrator) within the time limit.)
- 18.2 The time limit for lodgement of a protest shall be two (2) hours after the last boat in the race finishes. , The protest committee may extend the time if there is good reason to do so. This changes RRS 61.3
- 18.3 Non finishing vessels shall inform officials before leaving the course area OR the radio operator at the clubhouse immediately upon returning to shore.
- 18.4 The parties to a protest will be advised by notice posted on the official notice board within one hour of the close of the time limit for lodgement of protests, of the time and place and order for the hearing of protests. Posting of such notices shall constitute notification to the parties under RRS 63.2 63.2.

19. MEDIATION

- 19.1 For protests involving an alleged breach of a rule of RRS part 2, a short mediation hearing may be held prior to a protest hearing . This changes Part 5, Section B
- 19.2 After a written protest is lodged, one representative from each boat will meet with the mediator. No witnesses will be permitted at this hearing.
- 19.3 A boat that accepts the mediator's opinion that she broke a rule of part 2 shall have her elapsed time increased by 3% or 4 minutes (whichever is the greater) Protest not resolved by mediation will be forwarded to the Protest Committee.
- 19.4 The acceptance of the mediator's onion cannot be grounds for redress or reopening. This changes RRS 60.1, 62 and 66.
- 19.5 The mediator may be a member of any subsequent protest committee or may observe and give testimony to the protest committee.

20. SCORING SYSTEM - CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS.

- 20.1 Unless otherwise stated in the relevant Class Addenda annexed hereto, Club Championship points shall be awarded in accordance with Appendix A, A4.1 "low points system", YA Racing Rules of Sailing 2009 – 2012
- 20.2 Club Championship points shall only be awarded to vessels that have competed in the majority of Club pointscore races for the season.
- 20.3 Club Championship points shall only be awarded to vessels sailed by a skipper from within the normal crew, provided the Race Committee, on written application, may approve of such substitute skipper. Written application must be lodged with a member of the Race Committee at least one (1) hour prior to the commencement of the Championship heat.
- 20.4 In the case of a tie between 2 or more boats it shall be decided in accordance with RRS Appendix A 8

21. SCORING SYSTEM - CLUB POINTSCORES

- 21.1. Unless otherwise stated in the relevant Class Addenda annexed hereto, Club Pointscore points shall be awarded in accordance with Appendix A, A4.1 "low points system", YA Racing Rules of Sailing 2009– 2012.
- 21.2 Where any vessel or vessels are representing the Club in national, state or inter – club events conducted by class associations with which the Club is affiliated, no official pointscore or trophy races shall be conducted during their absence, for the sailing section to which the absentee/s belong
- 21.3 Should the Sailing Committee so decide, in special circumstances, it may conduct an official pointscore and / or trophy race and it may award to the absentee vessel or vessels, points for that race derived from taking an average of points gained by that vessel or vessels over the period of the last three (3) pointscore races sailed within the Club. If three Club races had not been sailed prior to the absence, the subsequent one, two or three races (to make a total of three races for the average) will be taken into account. Average points as outlined herein shall apply, unless otherwise stated in the relevant Class Addenda annexed hereto.
- 21.4 . Competitors must apply for average points in writing to, the Race Committee at least one (1) hour before the commencement of the race for which average points are requested.

22. HANDICAP SYSTEM

22.1 The handicap system to be used will be determined by the relevant Class Executive and outlined in the relevant Class Addenda annexed hereto. A skipper may apply to the relevant Class Executive at any time during the season to have his / her handicap reviewed. The Class Handicap Committee may, at its discretion, review the handicap of any vessel at any time.

23. ALTERNATIVE PENALTIES

23.1 YA Racing Rules of Sailing 2009 – 2012 44.1 and 44.2, shall apply unless otherwise stated in the relevant Class Addenda annexed hereto.

24. SAFETY

24.1 Competitors in all dinghy classes, shall wear in the designed manner, an adequate personal floatation device which has an Australian Standards Association classification of PFD 2 or higher

24.2 Non finishing vessels shall inform officials before leaving the course area OR the radio operator at the clubhouse immediately upon returning to shore

24.3 Safety checks for compliance with YA Special Regulations Parts 1 and 2 may be carried out before or after any race.

25. YACHT EQUIPMENT

251 A vessel shall carry her correct sail number unless she has otherwise notified the section Race Committee.

26. CHANGE OF VESSEL OWNERSHIP

26.1 In the event of vessels changing ownership within the Club, any trophies already finalised shall be awarded to the original owner and / or skipper. The new owner and / or skipper shall not be credited with any points already won by the vessel for trophies not finalised at the time of changing ownership, unless the Class Executive, with the endorsement of the Sailing Committee, recommends such transfer of points.

27. SEVERE WEATHER

27.1 At the discretion of the race committee the day's events or race may be postponed or abandoned due to the threat or occurrence of severe weather. If a decision to start cannot be made within a sixty (60) minute postponement time the events / race should be abandoned for the day. The events / race may be re-sailed on another scheduled race day, notice will be given and posted on the respective class notice board, prior to the commencement of the rescheduled event / race.

27.2 In the absence of a majority in the Race Committee the Principal Race Officer (PRO) will determine the postponement or abandonment of the day's race or events.

28. RUBBISH

28.1 Yachts shall not dispose of any item on board such as plastic bags, cans, bottles, butts, etc into the water. Yachts infringing may be disqualified.